The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

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INJUNCTION JUDGES MENACE LIBERTY OF WORKERS

Injunction judges are the greatest present-day menace to the constitutional rights of the workers and threaten the validity of free American institutions.

This is the warning contained in a report on injunctions in labor disputes by the Joint Labor Board of Illinois. President John H. Walker of the Illinois Federation of Labor is chairman of the board.

"Injunctions as now misused during labor disputes," the report declares, "represent a very sinister revival of the power of the ancient kings to govern their subjects by arbitrary proclamations issued without the authority or sanction of any legislative body.

"The injunction evil—a substitution of personal government for government by law—is growing steadily throughout the United States.

"Court decisions, both federal and state, are rapidly narrowing the limits wherein a remedy may be found for this extremely dangerous development.

"The injunction is now being used against the working people not only during strikes but also to prevent them from appealing to their fellow workers to join their unions even in cases where strikes are not in progress.

"The constitution is brazenly challenged in practically every one of these so-called 'labor injunctions.'

"The rights of free speech and free press which are affirmatively declared in most positive and unmistakable language in the constitution of Illinois and in all other state constitutions are positively denied by injunction judges.

"These writs represent a very flagrant violation of the basic law by the very officials who are sworn to uphold and maintain that law.

"The so-called 'equity injunction,' as it existed when our present government was established, was clearly and definitely limited to the field of property and tangible property rights as distinct from the domain of personal rights and personal relations.

"Those limitations were respected by the courts until about the year 1890, when reactionary judges began extending the so-called 'equity' injunction for the purpose of regulating personal relations and restricting personal rights in the case of workers engaged in strikes for improved working and living conditions.

"The power of the ancient kings, long since dead, was drawn out of the distant past to be used against the workers in free America.

"Neither congress nor the state legislature authorized any such arbitrary action on the part of the judges.

"Neither the original constitution of the United States nor any amendment thereto sanctioned any such declaration of inherent power on the part of the courts.

"Neither did any state constitution confer any such power upon them.

"Having usurped themselves as the sole arbiters of the constitution, they then proceeded to construe its meaning so as to increase their own power.

"The greatest temptation that can be placed within the reach of any man or set of men is that of arbitrary power over their fellow citizens.

"Taking the line of least resistance, after yielding to the temptation, they establish that power by directing it first against the humbler and least conspicuous citizens, the working people.

"But when it is firmly established there, they will later extend it until the entire citizenship of our land is engulfed and government is completely wiped out unless the dangerous power can be limited and restricted before it is too late.

"The problem of securing an adequate remedy for the injunction evil is one that challenges the very best thought of our most capable thinkers.

"It is the paramount question of the day.

"Liberties, our most precious inheritance from the forefathers, are at stake.

"The trade union movement, therefore, is performing a duty of loyalty to the constitution, to the American form of government, and to the American people as a whole by insisting now that the power of the courts to regulate personal relations by arbitrary injunctions shall be brought to an end."

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE APPROVES TUBERCULOSIS REMEDIES OF LABOR

Washington, Sept. 29.—Organized labor holds that the dread scourge of tuberculosis is mainly due to economic conditions rooted in low wages and long hours and that the problem is largely a matter of prevention.

In its early investigations organized labor found that in certain trades the death rate from tuberculosis is five or six times as great as in occupations free from the accompaniment of unsanitary conditions.

As far back as 1905 the American Federation of Labor convention declared that the great work of the federation in combating tuberculosis was to stamp out the scourge by such a campaign of education among trade unionists as to make it "impossible that men shall be permitted to work under conditions so menacing to life that they invite tuberculosis, and at wages so low that a standard of life can not be sustained sufficient to resist tuberculosis."

Now comes the United States Public Health Service with a report on "Tuberculosis, Its Predisposing Causes," in which there is abundant affirmation of the American Federation of Labor's position.

"The well fed resist tuberculosis well," declares the report. "The unemployed fall readily. Actual want must be reckoned with, especially in our great cities, such as New York, where 10 per cent of many hundred school children go breakfastless to school."

The report points out that "next to lack of food great fatigue is the greatest predisposing factor in tuberculosis," and adds that "exhaustion may be produced by long hours of heavy work" and "excessive or prolonged exertion."

"Child labor, either in factory or at home, excessively long working hours, occupations which can not be interrupted for Sunday rest, or which tempt, or drive, to excessive effort or 'speeding up', all tend to weaken resistance and predispose to tuberculosis.

"The air of poorly ventilated rooms is bad. Not only in factory and workshop and in over-crowded, poorly ventilated places of amusement, but in his own home, the ordinary individual frequently lacks good air."

The most significant portion of the Public Health Service report is its characterization of certain occupations as the prolific source of tuberculosis due to the prevalence of economic conditions against which organized labor wages its most vigorous fight:

"Marble and stone cutters, dry grinders, dry drillers and other workers who inhale 'hard' dust are especially subject to tuberculosis. 'Soft' dust from coal, limestone, wood, cotton or wool is not very injurious.

"Many occupations in which the mortality from tuberculosis is high are not in themselves conducive to tuberculosis, but are occupations in which employees are underpaid or overworked, or which are sought by the physically unfit, the improvident, or persons ignorant of many of the measures necessary to keep healthy.

"Outside of certain dusty occupations, the tuberculosis mortality is found among the callings which are characterized by comfortable living and moderate exertions."

WORKER'S DOLLAR SHRINKS TO 65 CENTS

Washington, Sept. 29.—Wages are of two kinds. Nominal wages and real wages.

Nominal wages consist of the number of dollars in the pay envelope.

Real wages consist of the purchasing power of the dollars expressed in food, clothing, shelter, and the other necessaries and conveniences of life.

Under our business system prices are fixed by the fiat of manufacturers and merchants.

When the price of coal "goes up," it is the arbitrary decree of the coal operators and coal dealers who put it up by refusing to sell for a lower price. The same principle applies absolutely to the activities of those who own other commodities.

The December issue of the Monthly Review of the United States bureau of labor statistics makes public the results of an interesting study of the work of the price boosters in recent years.

According to this report these business buccaneers have boosted the price of all commodities which the workers are compelled to buy for the support of their families to such an extent that the worker's dollar in June, 1923, had a purchasing power of but 65 cents, as compared with the worker's dollar in 1913.

Putting it still another way, the price boosters have lowered the purchasing power of the worker's dollar 35 per cent since 1913.

Price boosting is one of the most menacing powers the workers have.

Effective trade unionism is indeed labor's one protection against the greater evil of industry and commerce.

It gives the workers an instrument by which they may periodically adjust wages upward to meet, or more than meet, the price boosting of those who own the necessaries of life, and thus not only maintain but raise their standard of living.

WORKERS' DIVIDENDS: MINE EXPLOSIONS

Wheeling, W. Va., Sept. 29.—Three miners were killed in an explosion at the Benwood mine of the Wheeling Steel and Iron company, it was carried on the strike rolls of the International Typographical union in the strike for the 44-hour week in the book and job industry, according to the report by President Howard in the Typographical Journal, the union's official organ.

Since the strike was declared, in May, 1921, the union has collected $15,810,503 in strike assessments and paid out $14,673,565 in strike financing, mainly in strike benefits. The strike assessment has been reduced from 3 per cent to 2 per cent and brings in approximately $217,000 per month.

The black spots are Pennsylvania and the provinces of Ontario and Quebec. There are 431 members on the strike rolls in Pennsylvania, 446 in Ontario, and 247 in Quebec.

Montana up for the 44-hour week ought to stand for the 44-hour week. Out of 14 typographical unions in Montana but one union and one member is affected by the strike. In New Jersey with 19 unions there are also but one union and one member in the strike zone.

$9 FOR UPHOLSTERERS

Washington, Sept. 29.—Washington upholsterers' union has reached agreements establishing $9 a day minimum scale. The women workers in this industry have established a union affiliated with the Upholsterers' International union. Women upholsterers' wages have have been 25 per cent less than women in the same industry elsewhere where organization prevails.

UNION COAL COMPANY

Denver, Colo., Sept. 29.—The People's Finance Coal company, owned and operated by union men, has been formed in Denver. The company has bought the non-union Fox mine and is unionizing it. This will give Denver two concerns handling union-mined coal.

RETAIL FOOD PRICES BOOSTED 45 PER CENT

Washington, Sept. 29.—The price of food is the most important element in the life of the working masses.

Three times per day and 365 days in the year the workers have to contract with the food dealers weekly to maintain life for themselves and their families.

Because of the constant necessity for food the food merchants have always exercised a large power over the buying power of wages and consequently over the general welfare of the workers.

When the food retailers boost the price of food products they in reality charge the workers that much more for the right to live.

It is because of this arbitrary oppression that food profiteers are rightly regarded as menace to the peace and prosperity of every community and are the subject of general condemnation.

Yet the retail food merchants in the United States jacked up the price of food products 45 per cent during the 10-year period from August 15, 1913, to August 15, 1923, according to figures made public by the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Trade unionism stands as the guardian of the organized workers against the rapacity of the food profiteers.

While it is largely true that trade unionists can not "police" the profiteering retailers to lower their prices, it is also true that labor can compel grocers to jack up wages to a point where they absorb, and more than absorb, the jacked-up food prices.

POLITICIANS' SCHEMES FOR FARMERS' RELIEF

Washington, Sept. 29.—Washington politicians are conjuring up many wonderful schemes to relieve the economic distress of the farmers due to the depression in farm prices. The latest comes from former Vice President Marshall.

Marshall admits that the farmer's position is "deplorable," but bids him cheer up. No one denies that the farmer's lot is "distressful." No one denies that his compensation for his labor is "meager." But according to Marshall he should be consoled with the fact that he is in the open, breathing pure air, enjoying God's sunshine." Therefore he should "not lose heart or hope, but philosophic calm" which in every hour of trouble and storm have hitherto made him the sheet anchor of the republic.

The difficulty with Marshall's consolation is that neither the "open" nor "pure air" nor "God's sunshine" nor a "philosophic calm" will pay the interest on the mortgage, the note at the bank, or boost the price of farm products to the point where the soil tiller shall receive a fair return for his labor and capital.

UPHOLSTERERS SEEK FORTY-HOUR WEEK

New York, Sept. 29.—"The next step on the path of progress for the upholsterers' international union should be toward the establishment of the 40-hour week in our industry," declares the Upholsterers' Journal, the union's official organ.

"We should work for the 40-hour week because it will permit us to live bigger lives as men and women. It will give us more time to spend with the family. It will make us happier and freer. It will bring us health, and health is invaluable. It will lengthen our days and make life worth while. It will permit us to work instead of drudge."

PHOTO-ENGRAVERS WIN 44-HOUR WORK WEEK

Chicago, Ill., Sept. 29.—Members of the International Photo-Engravers' union have won the 44-hour week with the exception of certain Cincinnati newspaper plants, according to the American Photo-Engraver, the union's official organ.

The recent convention of the union adopted a resolution recommending that every possible effort be made to establish a 44-hour week in Cincinnati and that the "Cincinnati local union be directed not to renew the present contracts without this change having been effected."

HOE MACHINISTS STRIKE

New York, Sept. 29.—The R. Hoe company printing press factory is practically paralyzed by the strike of 1,150 machinists who walked out on August 1 as a measure to persuade the company to establish the 8-hour day, 44-hour week, and a wage increase from 85 cents to $1 per hour. The company refuses to meet union officials.

GOVERNMENT CONTROL OF COAL INDUSTRY

Washington, Sept. 29.—Supervision of the coal industry by the interstate commerce commission is the outstanding recommendation of the coal commission's final report.

The commission declares that the rigid monopoly of the hard coal industry makes government control necessary and suggests a tax on royalties and differential profits to curb the arbitrary powers of the monopolists. The tax would not decrease the price of coal, but would add to the public revenues and thus benefit the people indirectly.

In the bituminous coal industry the commission recommends regulation of transportation service by granting or withholding cars to establish an equilibrium between demand and supply, supplemented by government licensing of dealers who buy and sell coal in interstate commerce.

The commission says the coal consumers have the main grievance in the prices of anthracite in their own hands—they may use alleged substitutes for hard coal, thus influencing the coal profiteers to loosen up.

The report expresses regret that the coal industry itself has manifested either a lack of desire or inability to regulate the industry in the public interest. Serious consequences and injustices are made because of the industry's delinquency in this respect.

The coal operators are extending to congress, which under the Constitution has sole authority to regulate interstate commerce, although for years the jurisdiction of congress has been largely nullified by the Supreme Court of the United States, exercising that utterly unconstitutional and usurped power to veto acts of congress declaring public policies whose policies conflict with the policies approved by the irresponsible judiciary.

WOMEN WORKERS HIT BY BRITISH REPORT

London, Eng., Sept. 29.—The claim to sex equality in the civil service is rejected by the government commission, which has due to economic conditions the British civil service has no difficulty in finding a sufficient amount of the type required at less rate than men" and bolsters up its medieval position by pointing out that large employers as a rule insist that in work "above routine the average woman worker is worth less than the average man."

The report is generally condemned by organized labor of Great Britain.

PARLIAMENTARY SYSTEM WOBBLING IN EUROPE

Paris, France, Sept. 29.—Parliamentary institutions are wavering in Europe and force taking their place, according to Andre Tardieu, a long-time member of the French parliament and one of the outstanding public men of France.

Tardieu points to the insurrections and dictatorships that have saddled themselves upon the people of Europe since 1917 as proof of his contention.

"It is clear," concludes Tardieu, "that if the parliamentary system is to last it must be reformed and amended."

WAGE LAW DECISION APPEALED TO SUPREMES

Phoenix, Ariz., Sept. 29.—John W. Murphy, attorney general of Arizona, will appeal to the United States Supreme Court the recent decision of the U. S. district court at Los Angeles declaring the Arizona minimum wage law for women workers unconstitutional.

"In view of the reactionary tendencies and policies of the present personnel of the court," declares the Arizona Labor Journal, "we have little hope for the success of the appeal."

COURT FINES UNIONS FOR QUITTING WORK

Seattle, Wash., Sept. 29.—The right to strike is challenged by the Supreme Court of Washington in its decision awarding $20,000 damages to the Pacific Typesetting company against the Seattle local of the International Typographical union and the International itself.

The suit was the result of the 44-hour-week movement in the printing trade. Members of the Seattle local employed at the Pacific plant refused to work for non-union concerns. The Pacific company sued the local union and the international for $20,000 damages. The King county superior court decided against the company.

The company carried the case to the Washington supreme court, which reversed the ruling of the lower court and held that when persons or firms suffered damages by reason of strikes they may sue the trade unions and officers taking part in the strike.

The supreme court's decision affirms the slave owners' and feudal lords' conception of property rights in human labor power.

This property right conception is the favorite dogma of anti-union employers, their prostitute press and their kept judiciary.

The right to quit work is one of the inalienable rights without which our free institutions and American liberty under the constitution become but academic mouthings.

Under the wage system of production, the workers produce commodities and services for the private profit of employers.

When the courts fine the workers for the financial losses sustained by employers through the act of the workers in concertedly refusing to produce commodities and services under conditions which the workers deem too onerous they impose involuntary servitude in its most pernicious form.

That pernicious form is the compulsory production of wealth for the private profit of employers.

The decision of the supreme court of Washington sustains this compulsory production of wealth by levying heavy fines against those who refuse to perform the job.

The Washington State Federation of Labor is giving its 100 per cent support to the International Typographical union and the Seattle local in contesting the reactionary decision of the state court.

METAL MINERS KILLED AND INJURED IN 1922

Washington, Sept. 29.—Three hundred and forty-four metal miners were killed and 26,080 injured in 1922, according to figures made public by the U. S. Bureau of Mines. Among the killed are 47 miners whose lives were blotted out in one California mine fire.

These figures mean that out of every 1,000 metal mine workers more than three workers were slaughtered and 266 out of every 1,000 injured.

Fatalities and injuries in the metal mining industry are recognized by capital in safety work to be largely if not exclusively due to refusal on the part of metal mine owners to safeguard the workers who spend their lives in the bowels of the earth.

Mine explosions, mine fires, mine cave-ins, mine accidents of all sorts will be reduced to practically nothing when society as a whole places the same value on human life—a value that is acclaimed and insisted upon by the organized labor movement throughout the United States and the world.

But mine explosions, mine fires, mine cave-ins, and mine accidents of all sorts will continue their slaughter and injury of the workers as long as an employer-kept judiciary declares, as did the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia in the miners' wage decision, that among the rights to life, liberty and property protected by the United States Constitution, the greatest right is that of property.

SPOILS SYSTEM RUNS P. O. DEPARTMENT

Washington, September 29.—W. L. Ferine, president of the National Civil Service Reform league, charges post office department officials with the re-establishment of the spoils system and persistent violation of the civil service law by seeking recommendations from members of congress on postmaster and rural carrier appointments.

The charges direct attention to department letters to members of congress submitting names of applicants for the postmaster appointment and inviting recommendations, with the admonition that under the law "the department is not permitted to consider any recommendations of a political nature."

Foulke claims that this admonition is merely a "gigantic and multitudinous wink" to members of congress as to how they shall recommend their political partisans.

PLASTERERS PROVIDE $500,000 DEFENSE FUND

Denver, Colo., Sept. 29.—The convention of the Operative Plasterers' and Cement Finishers' International Association raised the national defense fund from $250,000 to $500,000 and increased the death benefit from $300 to $500.

J. J. McGivern of Boston was reelected president, and T. A. Scully of Middleton, Ohio, was chosen secretary.

48-HOUR REFERENDUM

Augusta, Maine, Sept. 29.—The 48-hour week referendum initiated by the Maine State Federation of Labor will be held at a special election on October 16.

SHIP BOARD'S SCHEME IS RULED UNLAWFUL

Washington, Sept. 29.—Attorney General Daugherty rules that the U. S. shipping board's scheme to dispose of the fleet of merchant ships owned by the United States government to private corporations or individuals is unlawful and void. The scheme was devised to avoid government operation of the fleet, which the law requires temporary until the ships are sold to private parties.

After the overwhelming defeat of the Harding administration in 1922 elections and later by the United States senate, Albert D. Lasker, then chairman of the board and father of the ship subsidy steal, and Edward P. Farley, present chairman, conceived the plan of organizing a number of private corporations, with the shipping board holding a portion of the stock, to which the title and operating rights now held by the board would be transferred. It is this Lasker-Farley plan that Daugherty's decision nullifies.

The shipping board has complete authority to operate the fleet until it can be disposed of, but regards government operation as violating certain basic traditional principles of American institutions in general and in opposition to the profits of the private shipping interests.

PAINTERS' UNION REPORTS PROGRESS

LaFayette, Ind., Sept. 29.—The Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers of America "has shown a steady gain in membership during the past year," declares the Painter and Decorator, the brotherhood's official organ.

The union has a membership of 106,887 and its officials are out for a goal of 110,000 by January, 1923.

As for finances, the receipts, including balance on hand on January 1, for the first six months of 1923 amount to $776,489, while the disbursements for the same period total $318,129. The payments in the death and disability fund amounted to $135,862.

LEATHER WORKERS RE-ELECT OFFICERS

Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 29.—W. E. Bryan has been chosen president and Thomas Fitzpatrick secretary-treasurer of the United Leather Workers' International union in a referendum election. Mr. Bryan has served as president for 15 years and Mr. Pfeiffer as secretary-treasurer for 21 years. The triennial convention will finally have had its say, but the jurisdiction decided to postpone it. The conventions elect the president, but the union is made that when no convention is held the officers shall be elected by referendum.

ORGANIZED SERVANTS OPPOSE CHEAP MAIDS

Paris, France, Sept. 29.—The French Servants' union is protesting against the introduction into France of black maids from Madagascar.

The union bases its opposition principally upon the low wages which French housewives persuade the colored maids to accept for work which is very arduous and which extends to night hours. The wages are less than half the usual rate for white experienced servants.

LABOR ORGANIZATION LEADS TO LIBERTY

Chicago, Ill., Sept. 29.—"Every bit of progress that has been made has been made as the result of organization," declares the International Steam Engineer, the official organ of the International Union of Steam and Operating Engineers, in an editorial leader on trade unionism.

"Progress lags just to the degree that organization lags.

"Whatever advance has been made in shortening hours, raising wages and elevating working conditions can be measured by the yardstick of organization.

"The individual worker may shirk his duty; he may maintain his stand for the principles of his craft or job to job searching the ideal conditions he wants to enjoy, but wherever he may be will find the same average level.

"There is no escape, for he is a worker, and, as such, is forced to compete with every other worker in the job market. No matter how much he may dislike any job that he gets is owned by some employer.

All of which means, according to the International Steam Engineer, that the individual worker must seek his identity in that of the mass. He must organize, and become an integral part of the organization. He must accept the inevitable conclusion that the "day of individual action is over and its sun has set and the day of collective, united, concerted action is at hand, for the good of one is bound up in the welfare of all."

AMERICA'S BULWARK IS TRADE-UNIONISM

St. Louis, Mo., Sept. 29.—"Trade unions have been the bulwark of our institutions and always first in defense of the rights of the people as guaranteed by the constitution," declares President Manion in the Railroad Telegrapher, the official journal of the Order of Railroad Telegraphers.

"Ever in the vanguard of progress they have urged the statutes both of state and nation every act now in force for the protection of men, women and children in industry.

"There is not one single act or law looking toward the greater safety of the people, whether on sea or land, that was not put over by the active, persistent work of trade unionists.

"And whatever of these acts providing for greater safety that was not bitterly and viciously fought by the enemies of society will destroy only to add more dollars to an already acquired excess of dollars."

COOPERATIVE DAIRY INCREASES SALES

Minneapolis, Minn., Sept. 29.—During July, 1922, the Franklin co-operative creamery of this city had 146 wagons in operation, delivering 2,234,856 bottles of milk, and did a business amounting to $286,096. During July, 1923, the company had but 46 wagons distributed but 968,495 bottles of milk and did a business amounting to but $96,949.

The cooperative dairy's annual turnover now amounts to practically $2,000,000. The dairy furnishes milk to 40,000 homes and gives its patrons the benefit of a 5 per cent patronage rebate.

GOVERNOR PROBES NEGRO DEPORTATION

Johnstown, Pa., Sept. 29.—Representative Samuel Pinchot are investigating the charge that Mayor Caufell violated the constitutional rights of the people in ordering Mexican and negro workers not resident here for seven years to leave the city.

The ban against the Mexican workers has already been lifted through the protest of diplomatic representatives of the Mexican government.

SHOE STRIKERS SOLID

St. Paul, Minn., Sept. 29.—St. Paul union shoe workers are standing firm in their wage increase strike against the arbitrary and reactionary labor policy of the Foot-Schulze shoe company. The concern refused to consider wage readjustments and declined to arbitrate. The shoe workers struck on June 1.

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PURCHASING CONTROL OF NON-UNION SHOPS

Chicago, Ill., Sept. 29.—Kill the non-union shop by purchasing a controlling interest in the concern that owns it.

Put the non-union shop out of business by establishing union shop plants and competing effectively for business patronage.

These are two aggressive measures considered by the recent convention of the International Association of Engravers' union of America.

The convention indorsed and referred to the union's finance committee a resolution authorizing the executive council to "draw upon the defense fund of the international union to purchase shares of stock in whatever non-union shop or shops may be deemed best by it, for the purpose of controlling interest or encourage and assist in the establishment of such a shop or shops may prove of advantage in fighting the so-called 'open shop' employers."

Under the scheme proposed, the president and executive council of the union may establish separate union corporate organizations to full power as to stock ownership, management control and accounting.

WORKERS' DIVIDENDS IN QUARRY ACCIDENTS

Washington, Sept. 29.—There were 132 men killed and 11,839 injured in the stone quarrying industry in the United States during 1922, according to information made public by the U. S. bureau of mines.

The owners of the quarries got their dividends in cash. The workers got theirs in death and injury. Approximately four quarry workers were killed and 241 injured out of every 1,000 employed.

Both the fatal and nonfatal accidents could be prevented if the policy of the employers to put the safety first and profits next instead of profits first and safety next. It costs money extracted from profits to install adequate safety conditions for the complete protection of the workers. Therefore profits are reduced to the minimum and the workers pay the price in loss of life and limb.

MILK DEALERS OPPOSE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

Washington, Sept. 29.—The organized milk dealers refuse to become parties to a collective bargain with the Maryland-Virginia milk producers' association and the 2,000 milk and cream required by Washington's 400,000 inhabitants.

At one period the dealers have made individual contracts with the dairy farmers. Under the producers' association contracts the dairy farmers bind themselves to deliver their milk exclusively for the three years to the association for the inducements offered by milk dealers to individual dairymen. The association is now in open warfare with the milk distributors with the object of securing the farmers an adequate return for their product.

The producers' association claims that the owners of 20,000 cows and one-fifth of the Washington territory have signed up with the association, and declares that the only means to insure fair individual bargaining policy the association will temporarily organize their own distribution service.

BRITISH UNEMPLOYED REACH 1,233,000

London, Eng., Sept. 29.—The British ministry of labor states that the number of persons recorded on the live registers of the employment exchanges as wholly unemployed is 1,233,000. The figure is but 100,000 less than a year ago. There are also many unemployed who are not on the live registers.

British organized labor charges the government with refusal to apply practical plans for furnishing work for the unemployed. It is claimed that all the schemes so far submitted to the ministry of labor for the provision of work during the coming winter include not more than 300,000 persons, leaving the bulk of the unemployed idle.